

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One Mississippi Oyster Reef Area to Close Oct. 13, Two Areas to Reopen Oct. 14

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) has announced the closing of Area II Approved Waters to the harvest of oysters, **effective Wednesday**, **Oct. 13**, **2004**, **at 4 p.m.** as a conservation measure and will remain closed until further notice.

• Area II Approved Waters (closing) includes Telegraph and Buoy reefs, the southern portion of the Pass Marianne reef and the Shell Keys of Pelican, Fletcher's, and Umbrella.

Additionally, the following areas and waters will **reopen** to the harvest of oysters, **effective Thursday, Oct. 14, 2004 at legal sunrise:**

- Area II "C" Conditionally Approved Waters (reopening) includes the northern portion of Pass Marianne Reef and southern portions of the Pass Christian and Henderson Point reefs and
- Area III Conditionally Approved Waters (reopening) includes the Kittiwake or "Long Beach" Reef.

For more information on the open and closed areas, call the DMR's 24-hour Oyster Information Hot Line at (228) 374-5167 or 1-800-385-5902.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the State by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.state.ms.us.